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HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

ONTARIO is packed with things to do and we want to make sure you don't miss any of them. So we've made it simple for you to select and enjoy hundreds of events by organizing them in this guide. As with all Ontario Tourism publications, we've divided the province into seven regions to help you easily keep tabs on where you are in Ontario.

When you know what region you'll be visiting...

For example, if you're planning to visit central Ontario, simply flip to that section. You'll find a series of listings arranged in order – first by community, then by date. If necessary, events are listed alphabetically within the dates. Events that extend from month-to-month are also indicated.

When you know what type of event you want to attend...

If there's an event you don't want to miss but are unsure of when and where it's happening, no problem. Check the easy-to-use, alphabetical index, sorted by event category. It's designed to help you easily locate a category and pinpoint the event. Then, all you need to do is get there.

For the most up-to-date information visit our Web site: www.ontariotravel.net where you can search for events by location, date and type.

Call the following numbers for additional travel information.

FROM TORONTO CALLING AREA:

English: (905) 282-1721 French (905) 612-8776

FROM CANADA, CONTINENTAL U.S.A. AND HAWAII:

English: 1-800-ONTARIO or 1-800-668-2746 FROM CANADA: French: 1-800-268-3736 Teletypewriter - TTY/Telecommunications Device for the Deaf

(TTD): (905) 612-0870 INTERNATIONAL INQUIRIES

Contact the appropriate Canadian embassy or overseas consulate for information on Ontario. For more information, visit www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/english/missions/menu.htm on the Internet. International visitors can also obtain information through our Web site, www.ontariotravel.net



We provide information to assist travellers with disabilities. Accessibility information is collected to address a variety of special needs. Please call the toll-free line and counsellors will assist you with the details you need to plan and enjoy travel throughout Ontario.

RENSEIGNEMENTS EN FRANÇAIS

Nous sommes heureux de vous offrir un service d'information touristique en français. Veuillez composer le (905) 612-8776 et il nous fera plaisir de vous aider.

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GREATER TORONTO AREA

BRAMPTON

December 31 New Year's Eve Celebrations Ringing in the New Year with fireworks, bon fires, toasted marshmallows, live entertainment, hot apple cider and hot chocolate – Gage Park, downtown, (905) 874-2300.

BURLINGTON

November 30 – January 4 Burlington Lakeside Festival of Lights

Traditional celebration of lights with unique illuminated and animated displays and family fun – FREE – Spencer Smith Park, Lakeshore Rd., (905) 333-9868; www.burlingtonfestivaloflights.com

December 9 & 16-17 Candlelight Tours of Yesteryear

Seasonal tours of historic Ireland House by the warm glow of candlelight (reservations required) – Ireland House at Oakridge Farm, (905) 332-9888;

www.geocities.com/burlington_museums

CAMPBELLVILLE

To December 24 Crawford Lake Conservation Area

(Weekends, 10am-4pm) Season of the First Frost – tours of the 15th century reconstructed Iroquoian village; exhibits and displays at the Visitors Centre, and scenic woodlands to hike, ski or snowshoe – Guelph Line and Steeles Ave., (905) 854-0234;

www.conservationhalton.on.ca

To December 24 Mountsberg Wildlife Centre (Weekends, 10am-4pm) Changing Seasons in the Country – see how wildlife prepares for the winter, watch the late migration of birds at the lookout towers and observation blind, see elk, bison and birds of prey; horse-drawn wagon or

sleigh rides – Milborough Line and Campbellville Rd., (905) 854-2276; www.conservationhalton.on.ca

MILTON

December 6, 7 & 13 Holly Trolley Rides
Special Christmas streetcar rides at the Streetcar
Museum – 13629 Guelph Line,
(519) 856-9802; www.hcry.org

MISSISSAUGA

September - May Living Arts Centre

The Living Arts Centre's 2003-2004 performing arts season offers a full range of entertainment, from music to dance, drama to variety – 4141 Living Arts Drive, (905) 306-6000; www.livingarts.on.ca

To December 31 Watermarks 2003

An exhibition by members of the group continuum.og on the theme of water, as part of the Ontario Society of Artists' Water Project – FREE – Delta Meadowvale Conference Centre, 6750 Mississauga Rd., (905) 274-5471; www.thewaterproject.com

December 14 Home for the Holidays

Early 19th and 20th century Christmas celebrations at Mississauga's two historic house museums – Benares Historic House, 1507 Clarkson Rd. N. and Bradley Museum, 1620 Orr Rd., (905) 822-1569; www.museumsofmississauga.com

January 2-4 North American International Motorcycle Supershow

North America's largest motorcycle show, now in its 28th year, with over 300,000 square feet of exhibit space, 400 exhibitors and over 1,000 motorcycles – Toronto International Centre, Airport Rd., (905) 939-0693; www.supershowevents.com

OAKVILLE

To January 25 Oakville Galleries

Fig Trees: A Video Opera - an innovative take on the Gertrude Stein/Virgil Thompson opera Four Saints in Three Acts, by filmmaker John Greyson and musician/composer David Wall -FREE - 120 Navy St., (905) 844-4402; www.oakvillegalleries.com

PICKERING

December 6 & 13 A Christmas Pantomime Backwoods Players present Aladdin -Brougham Hall, Brock Rd. N., Brougham: for tickets contact Pickering Museum Village, (905) 683-8401; www.cityofpickering.com

December 7 & 14 Christmas in the Village A celebration of Victorian Christmas, Scottish Hogmanay and Germanic traditions (noon-3pm) - Pickering Museum Village, Hwy. 7, Brougham, (905) 683-8401; www.cityofpickering.com

TORONTO

All year Famous People Players Dinner Theatre

Unique dinner theatre featuring one of Canada's most magical theatre troupes with black light puppetry - 110 Sudbury St., 1-888-453-3385 or (416) 532-1137; www.fpp.org &

All year The Second City

Canada's legendary sketch comedy presents live performances every evening, year-round -56 Blue Jays Way, King and Peter Sts., just north of SkyDome, (416) 343-0011; www.secondcity.com

Indefinite run The Mousetrap

Agatha Christie's classic mystery thriller -North America's longest running show, now in its 26th year - Toronto Truck Theatre, 94 Belmont St., two lights north of Bloor off Yonge, (416) 922-0084; www.mousetraptheatre.com

From November 21 The Producers Canadian premiere of Mel Brooks' musical adaptation of his classic film comedy -The Canon Theatre, 244 Victoria St., (416) 872-1212; www.mirvish.com

To December 7 One-of-a-Kind Christmas Show and Sale

A pre-Christmas shopping tradition, now in its 29th year, featuring a host of unique, handcrafted and definitely one-of-a-kind items -National Trade Centre, Exhibition Place, (416) 960-3680;

www.oneofakindshow.com

To December 7 Scaramouche Iones Acclaimed play that looks back at the life of an extraordinary man spanning the 20th century, starring Pete Postlethwaite - Winter Garden Theatre, 189 Yonge St., (416) 872-1212; www.mirvish.com

To December 24 The Guild Shop Galleries 'Tis the Season: The Holiday Collection, handmade creations, including the annual appearance of jolly old St. Nick, in this year's whimsical creations by doll artist Barbara Howarth - FREE - 118 Cumberland St., Yorkville, (416) 921-1721; www.craft.on.ca

To December 31 Black Creek Pioneer Village Christmas Remembered - old-fashioned Christmas, with festive demonstrations and hands-on activities - 1000 Murray Ross Parkway. Jane and Steeles, (416) 736-1733; www.trca.on.ca

To December 31 Cavalcade of Lights

One of Toronto's hottest holiday celebrations a stunning display of over 100,000 lights illuminate Nathan Phillips Square and Toronto's official Christmas tree, providing the backdrop to a series of holiday events, including skating parties, live entertainment, the ice sculpture contest Designs in Ice (Dec. 27-28), and culminating in a spectacular New Year's Eve celebration - FREE - Nathan Phillips Square,

100 Queen St. W., (416) 338-0338; www.toronto.ca/special_events

To January 4 Art Gallery of Ontario Degas Sculptures – an extraordinary exhibition celebrating the sculptural works of the great French Impressionist painter, who was also one of the most accomplished and influential sculp.

of the most accomplished and influential sculptors of his age – 317 Dundas St. W., 1-877-225-4246 or (416) 979-6648; www.ago.net

www.ago.net

To January 4 Disney's The Lion King The spectacular show about the coming-of-age of a lion cub – Princess of Wales Theatre, 300 King St. W., 1-800-461-3333 or (416) 872-1212; www.mirvish.com

To January 4 Ontario Science Centre Strange Matter - prepare yourself for a close encounter with the bizarre and fascinating world of modern materials, from fluids that morph and metals with memories to microscopic machines; Dec. 4-7, 1903 Wright Flyer Simulator - celebrate the 100th anniversary of flight by operating a replica aircraft in front of a giant screen that depicts the site of the Wright Brothers' first flight; Dec. 20-Jan. 4, Dream Machines: The Emetts, the world's largest display of whimsical mechanical inventions by Rowland Emett, with associated workshops and programs - an annual Science Centre favourite -770 Don Mills Rd., (416) 696-1000; www.ontariosciencecentre.ca

To January 18 Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art

Passion and Porcelain: pre-Revolutionary French Ceramics from the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art – the 18th century French aristocracy's dreams of never-ending elegance would be shattered by the Revolution, but the objects of their desire, beautiful ceramics, would come together again in the collection of the 20th century's most powerful financier, J. Pierpont Morgan – 111 Queen's Park, Bloor St. and Avenue Rd., (416) 586-8080; www.gardinermuseum.on.ca

To February 29 Mamma Mia!

The international smash-hit musical based on the songs of ABBA! – Royal Alexandra Theatre, 260 King St. W., 1-800-461-3333 or (416) 872-1212; www.mirvish.com

To March 7 Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People

To Jan. 4, Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang, play for ages 7 up, lyrics by Dennis Lee, music by Phil Balsam, based on the story by Mordecai Richler; Jan. 24-March 7, New Canadian Kids, by Dennis Foon and Jane Howard Baker – a funny and genuine look at the immigrant child's experience (ages 8 and up) – 165 Front St. E., (416) 862-2222; www.lktyp.ca

To March 7 Theatre Passe Muraille

Mainspace: To Dec. 15, Tequila Vampire Matinee - intrigue, obsession and betrayal as a troupe of mysterious performers descend on a remote Mexican town - an irreverent retelling of Pagliacci by Kevin Quain; Jan. 20-Feb. 15 (opens Jan. 23), One Good Marriage, by Sean Reycraft - a small-town couple faces the moment of commitment and the bizarre events that follow; Feb. 18-March 7, The Adventures of Ali and Ali and the Axes of Evil, a multimedia, inspections-free full-frontal assault on the Newest World Order; Backspace: Jan. 20-Feb. 15, Blood, by Tom Walmsley, an intense, high-stakes drama about the limits of love, addiction and murder - 16 Ryerson Ave., (416) 504-PLAY; www.passemuraille.on.ca

To March 21 The Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God

Moving and funny tale of a contemporary black Ontario family, by Djanet Sears – Harbourfront Theatre Centre, 231 Queens Quay W., (416) 872-1212; www.mirvish.com To March 28 Factory Theatre

To Dec. 7, Hockey Mom, Hockey Dad, by Michael Melski, an unconventional love story with a slapshot of Cape Breton humour; Jan. 2-Feb. 8 (opens Jan. 8), Restitution, an Irish-Canadian Rhapsody, by Michael O'Brien, world premiere of this grimly hilarious tale of two brothers; Feb. 28-March 28 (opens March 4), Dr. Chekhov: Ward 6, co-production with Theatre Smith-Gilmour, based on Chekhov's Ward 6 - 125 Bathurst St., (416) 504-9971: www.factorytheatre.ca

To March 30 CanStage

Bluma Appel Theatre: To Dec. 6, Cookin' at the Cookery, the music and times of jazz legend Alberta Hunter; Jan. 19-Feb. 14, Written on Water, by Michel Marc Bouchard - the quest for truth after a village's written chronicles are lost in a flood; Feb. 23-March 30, The Syringa Tree, by Pamela Gien - six-year-old Elizabeth negotiates the wonders and darkness of her world in apartheid South Africa; Berkeley St. Theatre: Jan. 9-March 6, Provenance, by Ronnie Burkett, internationally acclaimed adult puppetry in a play about a mysterious figure in a painting, sold and stolen, displayed and desired over the course of a century -(416) 368-3110; www.canstage.com

To April Toronto Maple Leafs Hockey Fast-paced National Hockey League action -

Air Canada Centre, 40 Bay St., (416) 872-5000; www.theaircanadacentre.com

To April Toronto Raptors

National Basketball Association excitement -Air Canada Centre, 40 Bay St., (416) 872-5000; www.theaircanadacentre.com

To April 30 CBC Museum

Growing Up with CBC – an exhibition featuring the Friendly Giant's castle, Mr. Dressup's tickle trunk, and the entire cast of Sesame Park; Radio SFX - learn how and why sound effects are used in radio programs -FREE - 250 Front St. W., (416) 205-5574; www.cbc.ca/museum

To May Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra

Tafelmusik's 25th anniversary season includes Bach's Christmas Oratorio, Cleopatra with Isabel Bayrakdarian, Handel's Messiah, Handel's Music for Royal Fireworks, and Mozart's Mass in C Minor - most performances at Trinity St. Paul's Centre, (416) 964-6337; www.tafelmusik.org

To June Royal Ontario Museum

To Jan. 4, Art Deco 1910-1939 - a comprehensive historical overview, this exhibition organized by London's Victoria and Albert Museum brings together some 250 masterpieces by famous artists and designers; to Jan. 4, Peter Rabbit's Garden, an exhibition celebrating Beatrix Potter's art and love of nature on the 100th anniversary of The Tale of Peter Rabbit; Feb. 28-June 6, Eternal Egypt: Masterpieces of Ancient Art from the British Museum -100 Queen's Park, (416) 586-8000; www.rom.on.ca

To June Toronto Symphony Orchestra 2003/2004 Season

An exciting season with a wide variety of classical music concerts under the baton of new musical director/conductor Peter Oundian. plus a host of guest conductors and soloists -Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St., (416) 598-3375; www.tso.ca

December 2-28 Cinderella

Ross Petty Productions' annual holiday musical event - pantomime-style comedy and music for all ages in this timeless classic tale - Elgin Theatre, 189 Yonge St., (416) 314-2901.

December 5 - February 28 Roy Thomson Hall Dec. 5, Wayne Newton's Home for the Holidays Tour; Dec. 7, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir - Festival of Carols; Dec. 12, George Carlin; Dec. 14, Girls Choir of Harlem; Dec. 20, Toronto Children's Chorus: A Chorus Christmas; Dec. 22, John McDermott: Christmas Memories; Dec. 23, Canadian Brass' Annual Christmas Concert; Jan. 1, Canada's New Year's Concert Salute to Vienna; Jan. 15,

GREATER TORONTO AREA

B.B. King; Jan. 31, Toronto Children's Chorus -25th Anniversary Gala; Feb. 22, David Daniels, the American countertenor in recital; Feb. 28, The Ten Tenors, one of Australia's most exciting musical groups performs everything from opera to pop - 60 Simcoe St., (416) 872-4255; www.roythomson.com

December 10 - February 19 Massey Hall Dec. 10, Colours of Christmas, superstar reunion with Peabo Bryson, Christopher Cross, Sheena Easton and Irene Cara; Dec. 18, Les Violons du Roy, Handel's Messiah; Dec. 20, Barra MacNeils Cape Breton Christmas, with special guest Rita MacNeil; Dec. 21, Tafelmusik's Sing-Along Messiah; Dec. 31, New Year's Eve Comedy Extravaganza celebrate the New Year with 2003 laughs, as Canada's homegrown Mark Breslin serves up the best in Canadian stand-up comedy; Jan. 24, Carrot Top, the American comedian entertains with spectacle, lights, lasers and music; Feb. 12, Paco de Lucia, flamenco music; Feb. 19, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, the ten-member Zulu a cappella group best known for its performance with Paul Simon on his Graceland album - 178 Victoria St., (416) 872-4255; www.masseyhall.com &

December 13 - February 22 National Ballet of Canada Winter Season

Dec. 13-30, The Nutcracker, James Kudelka's version of the Christmas favourite; Feb. 14-15 & 25-29, The Sleeping Beauty, Rudolf Nureyev's landmark version, restaged by Karen Kain; Feb. 18-22, Alice, Lewis Carroll's magical tale, choreography by Glen Tetley, and Balanchine's haunting Serenade -Hummingbird Centre, 1 Front St. E., (416) 345-9595; www.national.ballet.ca

December 26 - February 15 Toronto Operetta Theatre

Dec. 26-28, 30-31 & Jan. 2-3, The Chocolate Soldier, Oscar Straus' operetta based on Bernard Shaw's Arms and the Man; Feb. 14-15, The Widow, a Canadian operetta by the composer

of Canada's national anthem, Calixa Lavallée -Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E., (416) 366-7723; www.torontooperetta.com

December 29-31 First Night Toronto 2004 Family-oriented, alcohol-free, multicultural New Year's festival with dance, music, theatre, magic and comedy - SkyDome, (416) 341-3143; www.firstnight.toronto.com

December 30 - March Tarragon Theatre Mainspace: To Dec. 14, Hello...Hello, darkly romantic musical comedy by Karen Hines, musical score by Greg Morrison; Jan. 6-Feb. 8 (previews from Dec. 30), Capture Me, by Judith Thomson, the story of a free-spirited kindergarten teacher and a mysterious refugee who find love; previewing from Feb. 24, Runa Arlidge, by Michael Healey - the award-winning author of The Drawer Boy takes you on a 25-year-long trip to the family cottage with this story of three generations of women; Extra Space: Dec. 30-Feb. 8, I Claudia, the award-winning play about pre-teen anxieties written and performed by Kristen Thomson -30 Bridgman Ave., (416) 531-1827; www.tarragontheatre.com

January 2 - February 22 Copenhagen Michael Frayn's award-winning play about the mysterious Copenhagen meeting of two atomic scientists on opposite sides of the arms race to develop the nuclear bomb - The Winter Garden Theatre, 189 Yonge St., (416) 872-1212; www.mirvish.com

January 10-18 Toronto International Boat Show

The 46th annual show, Canada's largest boat show, featuring over 700 boats and thousands of accessories and marine services - National Trade Centre, Exhibition Place, (905) 951-0009; www.torontoboatshow.com

January 15-18 Metro Home Show

New ideas for the home and unique solutions to urban spaces and city life – Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building, 225 Front St. W., 1-888-823-7469 or (416) 385-1880; www.metrohomeshow.com

January 22 – February 7 Canadian Opera Company Winter Season

Jan. 22, 25, 27 & 30, Feb. 4 & 7, Verdi's
Falstaff; Jan. 21, 24 & 29, Feb. 1, 3 & 6,
Puccini's Turandot – Hummingbird Centre,
1 Front St. E., (416) 363-8231; www.coc.ca

January 28 – February 28 Harbourfront Centre Dance

Jan. 28-Feb. 1, Danny Grossman Dance presents modern dance pioneer Anna Sokolow's Rooms, set to an original jazz score; Feb. 3-7, Tai-Gu Tales Dance Theatre from Taiwan make their Toronto debut with The Life of Mandala, a tale of temptation, ritual and the triumph of the human spirit; Feb. 24-28, Toronto Dance Theatre presents Retro Vista, a look back by choreographer Christopher House over his 25 years with the company – Premiere Dance Theatre, Queen's Quay Terminal, (416) 973-4000; www.harbourfront.on.ca

January 30 - February 8 WinterCity

A celebration of the season with vibrant spectacle and fun events – FREE – various locations around Toronto, (416) 338-0338; www.toronto.ca/special events

February 10 - March 7 The Hollow Crown

The Royal Shakespeare Company's acclaimed production – a unique look in story and song at the kings and queens of England – wars, jealousies, pageantry and bedchamber secrets – Princess of Wales Theatre, 300 King St. W., 1-800-461-3333 or (416) 872-1212; www.mirvish.com

February 12-15 Toronto RV Show and Sale Over 180 exhibitors featuring recreational

Over 180 exhibitors featuring recreational vehicles, campgrounds, RV lifestyle destinations, products and services – FREE – Toronto Congress Centre, 650 Dixon Rd., 1-888-641-4622 or (416) 691-2852; www.freervshow.org

WHITBY

To January 4 Festival of Lights

A celebration of the Christmas season with over 100,000 sparkling lights, giant magical motion light sculptures, a mini Santa Claus parade, and a nativity scene with live animals – Cullen Gardens and Miniature Village, 300 Taunton Rd. W., 7 km north of Hwy. 401 via Hwy. 12; 1-800-461-1821 or (905) 686-1600; www.cullengardens.com

January 4 Walk for Memories

Annual walk-a-thon to raise funds for Alzheimer's research and support – Cullen Gardens and Miniature Village, 300 Taunton Rd. W., 1-800-461-1821 or (905) 686-1600; www.cullengardens.com



For helpful information about accommodations, festivals, events, adventures and experiences in Ontario, please visit

www.ontariotravel.net

SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO

AMHERSTBURG

December 6 Victorian Christmas

All decked out in seasonal Victorian finery, the Park House Museum hosts a traditional Christmas, with craft demonstrations, cooking, tinsmithing, displays and gift store (1-5pm) – FREE – 214 Dalhousie, (519) 736-2511; www.parkshousemuseum.com

December 7 Christmas Magic at Fort Malden

A celebration of a traditional 19th century soldier's Christmas, with decorated barracks, military demonstrations and sample holiday treats – Fort Malden National Historic Site, 100 Laird Ave, (519) 736-5416; www.parkscanada.gc.ca

BELLE RIVER

December 12 – March 27 Dinner Theatre at RP's

Dec. 12-13, Who Slayed Santa? - Showcase Players present a Christmas murder mystery; three-course country-style dinner served during the performance; Dec. 20, Improv Comedy Show, local performing group Cheeky Monkeys Comedy Troupe enact skits based on audience prompts; Jan. 31, Feb. 28 & March 27, Yuk Yuk's Stand Up Comedy Show, a fast-paced 90-minute show by members of Yuk Yuk's troupe follows a hip of beef buffet dinner; Feb. 13, Bye Bye Bugsy - Showcase Players present a 'Valentine's' murder mystery - the mobster theme recalls the Chicago St. Valentine's Day massacre; dinner during the performance - RP's Restaurant at Rochester Place Resort, 981 County Rd. 2, 1-800-563-5940 or (519) 728-2361; www.rochesterplace.ca

BRANTFORD

December 27-30 34th Wayne Gretzky International Hockey Tournament International tournament, with games at various venues – (519) 759-8552; www.bmha.on.ca

December 31 Families First New Year's Eve Celebrations

Join us, celebrate the New Year with your children. There are many activities like Bouncers, Hat Making, Imagination Station, Face painting, Clowns and more. Come have a fun, safe, enjoyable evening – 300 King George Road, (519) 750-9421.

CALEDONIA

To December 19 Christmas With Culture
A unique display of Christmas trees decorate by
area schoolchildren (Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm) –
FREE – Edinburgh Square Heritage and
Cultural Centre, 80 Caithness St. E.,
(905) 765-3134; www.haldimandcounty.on.ca

CAMBRIDGE

To March Cambridge Galleries

Queens Square: To Dec. 7, Katherine Harvey: Storefront; Dec. 6-Jan. 18, Chinese artist Wang Qingsong, large format photography; to Sept. 1, 2004, John Dickson: Cold War – installation by artist John Dickson, whose work over the years has dealt with the symbolic properties of water – part of the Ontario Society of Artists Water Project; Preston Branch: Dec. 13-Jan. 26, Peter Smith; Jan. 31-March 7, Richard Perkins – FREE – (519) 621-0460; www.gallerycambridge.on.ca

December 6 Hespeler Santa Claus Parade Annual parade through the Hespeler Village area of Cambridge (noon) – FREE – (519) 658-4721.

December 14 Cambridge Kiwanis Boys' Choir Christmas Concert

A program of Christmas music – St. Clements Roman Catholic Church, 745 Duke St., (519) 653-6123.

December 15 Living Christmas Pageant

An outdoor presentation of the Christmas story with actors, featuring live animals – FREE – (519) 621-2484.

CAYUGA

To December 18 Haldimand County Museum and Archives

Fifth annual juried art show – a display of works by local artists in a variety of styles – FREE – 8 Echo St., (905) 772-5880; www.haldimandcounty.on.ca

December 6, 9 & 10 Ruthven Park

Christmas Tour

Tour the mansion decorated for Christmas and hear about early Christmas traditions; tea provided – Ruthven Park National Historic Site, 243 Hwy. 54, (905) 772-0560; www3.sympatico.ca/ruthven.park/

CHATHAM

December 7 – February 22 Chatham Cultural Centre

Dec. 7, Chorale Christmas Concert, old and new songs for the festive season; Dec. 12, Orchestra London Christmas Pops concert; Jan. 17 (11am), Sharon, Bram and Friends, children's sing-along concert; Jan. 29, April Verch, a toe-tapping show by the two-time Canadian fiddle champion; Feb. 5-7, Theatre Kent presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest; Feb. 8 (2pm), Carlos del Junco, everything from jazz to Latin and hip-hop; Feb. 13, Orchestra London – Salute to Swing; Feb. 22, Nearly Neil – Bobby Bruce with his Neil Diamond tribute show – Kiwanis Theatre, 1-866-807-7770 or (519) 354-8338; www.city.chatham-kent.on.ca/ccc

DUNNVILLE

December 6 Santa Claus Parade

Dunnville celebrates the arrival of Santa – FREE – downtown, (905) 774-3183; www.linetap.com/dunnvillechamber

ELORA

December 14 Handel's Messiah

The Elora Festival Singers in a performance with orchestra to welcome the holiday season – St. Mary's Church, (519) 846-9694; www.elorafestivalsingers.org

January 25 Elora Festival Singers

A performance of Byrd's Mass for Four Voices, one of the Soup Concert series, featuring a soup lunch and a short talk before the performance – St. John's Church, (519) 846-9694; www.elorafestivalsingers.org

ERIN

December 27 Cinderella's Christmas

A seasonal show for the family – Theatre at the Centre, 1-888-411-4443 or (519) 833-0707; www.theatreatthecentre.com

FERGUS

December 6 Fergus Santa Claus Parade

A fun event for all ages with entertaining music, floats and of course the man in a red suit (1pm start) – FREE – downtown, 1-877-242-6353 or (519) 843-5140; www.fergusbia.com

December 14 Christmas Festival

A family celebration with a visit from Santa Claus, music, displays, children's crafts and refreshments (noon-4pm) – Wellington County Museum and Archives, Hwy. 18 between Fergus and Elora, (519) 846-0916; www.wcm.on.ca

GODERICH

To January 1 Festival of Lights Celebrations Goderich celebrates the festive season with

glittering lights and magical displays – thousands of coloured lights in the park – FREE – Court House Park, 1-800-268-7637 or (519) 524-6600; www.town.goderich.on.ca

GUELPH

December – February River Run Centre Full program of music, shows, recitals and plays – call for schedule – 35 Woolwich St., (519) 763-3000; www.riverrunguelph.on.ca

December 4 – February 28 Theatre in the Trees Dinner Theatre

Dec. 4-6 & 12-13, Boeing-Boeing, comedy by Marc Camoletti and Beverley Cross about the chaos that ensues when the three air hostess fiancées of a Parisian architect arrive at his home simultaneously; Feb. 7, 14, 21 & 28, Marriage can be Hazardous to Your Health, a comedy by Arnold Kane involving mid-life crisis, marriage issues and forgiveness, with comic twists – The Arboretum, (519) 824-4120; www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum

HAMILTON

To January 4 Hamilton Museum of Steam and Technology

From the Collections – a selection of highlights from the museum's collections, featuring recent acquisitions, old favourites and some surprises – 900 Woodward Ave., (905) 546-4797; www.hamilton.ca

To January 4 Dundurn National Historic Site Nov. 22-Jan. 4, Victorian Christmas – enjoy the beauty of a mid-19th century family Christmas celebration, with the Castle decorated in Victorian splendour by the Garden Club of Hamilton; Dec. 4-21 (Thurs.-Sun., ticketed event), Christmas Evening Tours, a unique opportunity to see the historic mansion by candlelight – 610 York Blvd., (905) 546-2872, ext. 28; www.hamilton.ca

January 24-31 Come By the Hills
A Scottish mist of a musical – (905) 522-7529
or 1-800-465-7529; www.theatreaquarius.org

January 14-31 The Mystery of Irma Vep This play on well-known gothic melodramas combined with English vaudeville humour ensures a madcap romp of groans and grins – (905) 522-7529 or 1-800-465-7529; www.theatreaquarius.org

December 6-28 The Music Man

The award-winning story of traveling salesman Harold Hill, who sells music and boy's bands to small towns and finds love with a librarian – (905) 522-7529 or 1-800-465-7529; www.theatreaquarius.org

December 6 – March 6 Theatre Aquarius Dec. 6-28, The Music Man, holiday family musical; Jan. 14-31, The Mystery of Irma Verp – a quick-change spoof of Gothic melodrama combined with English vaudeville humour; Feb. 18-March 6, The Winslow Boy, Terence Rattigan's story of British class – 190 King William St., 1-800-465-7529 or (905) 522-7529; www.theatreaquarius.org

February 18 – March 6 The Winslow Boy A moral drama, based on a real-life story of a young cadet accused of stealing a five shilling postal note – (905) 522-7529 or 1-800-465-7529; www.theatreaquarius.org

February 28 – March 6 Fingers and Toes
A dazzling song and dance love triangle –
190 King William Street West. (905) 522-7529
or 1-800-465-7529; www.theatreaquarius.org

KINCARDINE

December 6 Kincardine Santa Claus Parade An evening parade, starting at 6:30pm from Sutton Park Mall and proceeding via Queen Street to Victoria Park; visit with Santa afterwards – FREE – 1-800-268-3838 or (512) 534-5344; www.naturalretreat.com

KINGSVILLE

December 6-14 A Heritage Christmas

(Weekends) A timeline of Christmas traditions from the first settlers to the Victorian age; the village's historic buildings are lit up, and Santa can be visited in the one-room schoolhouse –

Southwestern Ontario Heritage Village, 6155 Arner Townline, County Rd. 23, (519) 776-6909; www.swoheritagevillage.ca

December 7 Christmas in the Country A family celebration of Christmas at the historic homestead – see what Christmas was like 160 years ago – John R. Park Homestead, 915 County Rd. 50 E., on Lake Erie, (519) 738-2029; www.erca.org

KITCHENER

All year Centre in the Square

Kitchener's premier live performing arts venue, with a full program of music, shows and variety – 1-800-265-8977; www.centre-square.com

To December 23 Woodside National Historic Site

Nov. 22-Dec. 23, Victorian Christmas
Celebration – wander through the wonderland
of Christmas at Woodside as it was in 1891;
weekend afternoons are special with baked
goods, hot beverages and Victorian activities;
Dec. 11 & 18, Woodside by Lamplight – an
opportunity to view the mansion decorated
traditionally for Christmas, by the light of
candles and kerosene lamps –
528 Wellington St. N., (519) 571-5684;
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/woodside

December 5-21 Doon Heritage Crossroads
Dec. 5-6, 12-13 & 19, Lantern Light Tours —
experience the sights, sounds and smells of
Christmas in 1914, with a carol concert in
the church, a horse-drawn wagon ride and
a lantern-lit walking tour of the living history
museum; Dec. 7, 14, 21, Country Christmas —
a rural Christmas as it was in 1914, complete
with Father Christmas, carols and horse-drawn
wagon rides; Dec. 20 (ticketed event, advance,
booking), Starry Night — traditional music, food
and good cheer, as the living history museum is
lit with over 150 lamps — 10 Huron Rd. at
Homer Watson Blvd., (519) 748-1914;
www.region.waterloo.on.ca

LEAMINGTON

December 15 Christmas Bird Count
Annual Christmas bird count on behalf of the
National Audubon Society – an all-day event –
call for more information – Point Pelee

National Park, (519) 322-2365; www.parkscanada.gc.ca/pelee

LION'S HEAD

December 6 Santa Claus Parade

Annual Rotary parade – meet Santa at the Rotary Hall afterwards – Main Street, 1-800-268-3838 or (519) 534-5344; www.naturalretreat.com

LONDON

September 13 – January 9 Rae Davis: Work 1959–2003

This exhibition includes installations, book works, videos, drawings and electronic media works from 1959 to 2003, including the new projection work, Glacial Slip – 421 Rideout Street North, (519) 661-0333; www.museumlondon.ca

To January 18 London Children's Museum World Circus – discover what it is like to be a trapeze artist, tightrope walker, juggler or clown, and learn about the international history of the circus. A travelling exhibit produced by the Canadian Children's Museum – 21 Wharncliffe Rd. S., (519) 434-5726; www.londonchildrensmuseum.ca

To February 21 Grand Theatre

To Dec. 22, Peter Pan, family Christmas show based on the famous J.M. Barrie tale; Jan. 6-24, Strawberries in January, romantic comedy; Feb. 3-21, The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon, based on W.O. Mitchell's story of the curler who makes a pact with the devil − 471 Richmond St., 1-800-265-1593 or (519) 672-8000; www.grandtheatre.com

To March 31 London Museum of Archaeology

Stories of (Pre) History: The Jury Family Legacies, an exhibition chronicling the extraordinary lives of Amos, Wilfrid and Elsie Jury, who were instrumental in starting many museums and historical societies across Ontario and Quebec – 1600 Attawandaron Rd., (519) 473-1360; www.uwo.ca/museum

To April Museum London

To Dec. 14, Power of Invention: Drawings from Seven Decades by Tony Urquhart, a survey of the Canadian artist's remarkable career; to Jan. 4, Streets and Surveys: Growth in London, 1826-1993 – an exhibition with maps, photos, postcards and works of art, charting the physical growth of London; to Jan. 11, Kids for Kids Collages – secondary school students interpret Aids in Africa through thought-provoking collages; Nov. 29-April 11, David Clark: Chemical Vision – an interactive, walk-through structure in the form of the periodic table of the elements that challenges, surprises and informs viewers – FREE – 421 Ridout St. N., (519) 661-0333; www.museumlondon.ca

To May Orchestra London

A wide variety of classical music, masterworks and pops concerts, with guest soloists – (519) 679-8778; www.orchestralondon.ca

December 5 Shae Lynn Bourne and Victor Kraatz, A Homecoming Celebration

Ice skating spectacular with a cast that also includes Brian Orser, Josée Chouinard and Jennifer Robinson – John Labatt Centre, 99 Dundas St., (519) 667-5700; www.johnlabattcentre.com

December 6-7 & 13-14 Christmas at the Village

Fanshawe Pioneer Village celebrates the season – take a horse-drawn wagon ride and see the village decorated in all its Christmas finery; Christmas concert at 2pm – 1424 Clarke Rd., (519) 457-1296; www.pioneer.wwdc.com

January 10-11 The London January Bridal Show

Everything for weddings, with over 100 exhibitors, fashion shows (Sat. noon & 3pm, Sun. 3pm), prizes for brides-to-be – London Convention Centre, 300 York St., (519) 455-5888;

www.londonshowproductions.com

February 3 Seussical The Musical

Family show – a Broadway in London presentation – John Labatt Centre, 99 Dundas St., (519) 667-5700; www.johnlabattcentre.com

February 13-15 The London Woodworking Show

Everything for the woodworker, with exhibits and sales of tools, lumber, machinery, wood and craft supplies and accessories; daily how-to clinics and demonstrations; carving and wood turning competitions – Western Fairgrounds, 900 King St., (519) 455-5888; www.londonshowproductions.com

February 29 Cats

The acclaimed Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, a Broadway in London presentation – John Labatt Centre, 99 Dundas St., (519) 667-5700; www.johnlabattcentre.com

MEAFORD

December 7 Goldenaires Christmas Concert Christmas music featuring the glorious

harmonies and spirit of the Meaford Goldenaires (2:30pm) – Meaford United Church, Boucher and Sykes St., (519) 538-4136; www.meaford.com

ORANGEVILLE

December 3 – March 14 Theatre Orangeville Dec. 3-28, Carol's Christmas, a sophisticated and contemporary version of Dickens' Christmas classic with a female twist; Dec. 13-27, A Christmas Carol, the classic Dickens tale in a version where the ghosts of Christmas are played by puppets; Feb. 25-March 14, Outlaw,

by Norm Foster – 87 Broadway, 1-800-424-1295 or (519) 942-3423; www.theatre-orangeville.on.ca

December 7 Christmas Concert

A Christmas concert in the historic Corbetton Church – 1-877-941-7787 or (705) 435-1881; www.dufferinmuseum.com

OWEN SOUND

To January 11 Festival of Northern Lights The 16th annual Christmas display features over seven miles of Christmas lights and 200 displays along the Sydenham River and into Harrison Park – FREE – (519) 376-1440; www.festivallights.ca

To January 20 Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery

To Jan. 18, Convergence, 41st annual juried art exhibition; *to Jan. 20*, Wide Borders, works by textile artists Lynne Heller, Lorraine Roy and Karen Thiessen – FREE – 840 1st Ave. W., (519) 376-1932; www.tomthomson.org

December 13; January 31 Georgian Bay Symphony

Dec. 13, Home for Christmas, featuring returning symphony members and a carol sing-along; Jan. 31, All-Mozart program, featuring Guy Few, piano and trumpet – OSCVI Auditorium, 1550 8th St. E., (519) 372-0212; www.bmts.com/~gbs

January 16-25 SnoBLAST 2004

A celebration of winter with a wide assortment of indoor and outdoor activities – tournaments, snowboarding, winter biking, indoor garage sale, dances and the Tim Hortons Georgian Club Snowcross (*Jan. 24-25*) – FREE – various locations, 1-888-675-5555 or (519) 371-9833; www.e-ovensound.com

PORT ROWAN

February 28 Adventures in Backus Woods: Winter Tree Identification

Become a tree detective and learn how to identify trees when they have no leaves; 1pm interpretive program in the Conservation Education Centre, followed by a nature walk in Backus Woods – Backus Heritage Conservation Area, 2 km north, off Reg. Rd. 42, 1-888-231-5408 or (519) 428-4623; www.lprca.on.ca

ROCKTON

December 7-21 Christmas at Westfield Heritage Village

Dec. 6, 13, 20 (5-9pm), Twas the Night Before Christmas – celebrate Christmas past from the Georgian to the modern eras, with plays, food samples, fireworks, horse-and-wagon rides, plus a visit from Saint Nick; Dec. 6, 13 (ticketed event, early booking recommended), Christmas Moveable Feast – a four-course historical dinner and magical tour through Christmas traditions; Dec. 7 & 14 (ticketed event, early booking recommended), Christmas Table – historical Christmas dinner, Victorian pantomime and carols – Reg. Rd. 552, off Hwy. 8 between Cambridge and Dundas, 1-888-319-4722 or (519) 621-8851; www.westfieldheritage.ca

ROSEMONT

To May Dufferin County Museum and Archives

To Dec. 14, TRANART – a provocative presentation of ferro oxidations and two-dimensional concepts for sculpture by renowned Canadian sculptor Deeter Hastenteufel with guest artist Sibylle Groene; to May 30, Whirligigs and Wind Machines – first public showing of antique Canadian whirligigs from the private collection of Canadian artist Robert Markle (1936-1990), best known for his studies of nudes – Airport Rd. and Hwy. 89, north of Orangeville, 1-877-941-7787 or (705) 435-1881; www.dufferinmuseum.com

SARNIA

To January 9 Celebration of Lights
Canada's largest community of lights – incredible

light displays, many with animated sequential lighting, and including a 72-foot arch over Front Street – FREE – Front St., Centennial Park, (519) 862-2291; www.celebrationoflights.com

December 3-21 Imperial Theatre

Dec. 3-6, Victorian Christmas Concert – annual performance by the Nightingale Chorus under the direction of Carrie Beauchamp; Dec. 7, Rankin Sisters' Christmas – the renowned Canadian group presents a very special Christmas show for the whole family; Dec. 15-21, Jack and the Beanstalk – Theatre Sarnia and Nova Chemicals present a pantomime based on the well-known children's tale – fun for all ages from 5 to 105, with lively songs, dances and audience participation – 168 N. Christina St., 1-877-344-7469 or (519) 332-6591; www.imperialtheatre.net

December 5-7 Christmas on the Farm Old-fashioned Christmas with the Historical Society, crafts, carolling, hay rides, light display and more – Canatara Park, (519) 336-0330.

December 6 Sarnia Kinsmen Christmas Parade of Lights

19th annual parade of lights, with marching bands, 60 or more floats, clowns and Santa (6pm start) – FREE – (519) 542-8438.

December 18 Celebration on Ice 2003

Top figure skaters in an ice spectacular – cast includes Shae Lynn Bourne and Victor Kraatz, Isabelle Brasseur and Lloyd Eisler, Donald Jackson, Jennifer Robinson and Joanne Rochette – Sarnia Sports and Entertainment Centre, (519) 541-1000; www.ssec.on.ca

SELKIRK

To December 16 Wilson MacDonald Memorial School Museum

Wonderful, Warm and Wooly – an exhibition on the processing of wool, from sheep shearing to the finished product (*Mon.-Fri.*, 10am-4:30pm) – FREE – 3 km west, corner of

Cheapside Rd. and Rainham Rd. (Reg. Rd. 3), (905) 776-3319; www.haldimandcounty.on.ca

SIMCOE

November 30 – January 4 Simcoe Christmas Panorama

Simcoe's Panorama of lights – FREE – Wellington and Powell Park, 1-800-699-9038; www.norfolktourism.ca

SOUTHAMPTON

December 7-21 Candlelight Music Series

Last three Sunday concerts in a series featuring a wide variety of music, from folk and classical to light rock and instrumental solos – Southampton Town Hall, 1-866-318-8889 or (519) 797-2080;

www.brucecounty.on.ca/museum

December 21 A Christmas Carol

A dramatic reading with music of the perennial Charles Dickens Christmas favourite – Southampton Town Hall, 1-866-318-8889 or (519) 797-2080; www.brucecounty.on.ca/museum

ST. JACOBS

To January 4 St. Jacobs Schoolhouse Theatre Drayton Entertainment presents Triple Espresso – a highly caffeinated comedy with a mix of sketches, singing, magic tricks, mime displays and dance numbers – a pick-me-up for audiences of all ages – 11 Albert St., 1-888-449-4463 or (519) 638-5555; www.draytonentertainment.com

STONEY CREEK

December 2-21 Victorian Country Christmas in the City

The historic Erland Lee Museum Home is decorated in the Victorian Christmas tradition; children's activities – 552 Ridge Rd., (905) 662-2691; www.fwio.on.ca

STRATFORD

December 6 Stratford Premier Craft Show Fine juried craft show and sale – FREE – Arden Park Hotel, 552 Ontario St., (519) 371-4477; www.nortonshows.ca

December 7 Santa Claus Parade Downtown Stratford – 1-800-561-7926.

December 14 City Light Tours
A chance to tour the Christmas lights in
Stratford by bus – 1-800-561-7926.

TILLSONBURG

To January 11 Annandale National Historic Site

Nov. 21-Jan. 11, All I Want for Christmas, exhibit of antique toys; to Jan. 11, Christmas at Annandale – tour three floors of Yuletide splendour throughout the Victorian mansion – Annandale National Historic Site, 30 Tillson Ave., (519) 842-2294; www.town.tillsonburg.on.ca

February 5-15 Theatre Tillsonburg
Feb. 5-8 & 12-15, Alan Ayckbourn's Round and
Round the Garden, a British farce involving the
madcap antics of Norman, the philandering
librarian – Otter Valley Playhouse, Potters Rd.,
(519) 688-3026; www.ocl.net/tpl/theatre

WALKERTON

December 21 Christmas Candlelight Carolling

An evening carol sing at the Tree of Hope – (519) 881-0267.

WALLACEBURG

To February 15 Acorn Dinner Theatre
To Dec. 19, Seldom Inn, a holiday farce about
the adventures of a young couple struggling to
run a country inn; Feb. 4-15, Vincent and
Valerie's Valentine, comedy of manners —
Oaks Inn, 80 McNaughton Ave. (Hwy. 40),
(519) 627-1433; www.oaksinn.net

WIARTON

January 30 – February 2 Wiarton Willie Festival

Celebrating Canada's groundhog, Wiarton Willie, with a host of events – throughout town, 1-877-844-9884; www.wiarton-willie.org

WINDSOR

December 5 – February 26 Capitol Theatre Dec. 5-14, Nuncrackers, The Nunsense Christmas musical; Dec. 6, Don Jones Productions presents the Rankin Sisters; Jan. 30, Kiyoshi Nagata Ensemble – taiko drummers, Feb. 13, Broadway star Louise Pitre; Feb. 22, The Paul Keller Orchestra with a salute to the 100th birthday of Count Basie; Feb. 26, The Incredible Acrobats of China – 121 University Ave., (519) 253-7729; www.capitol.on.ca

December 6 – mid-March Bright Nights Lighting displays make downtown Windsor bright, as the backdrop to a variety of seasonal events, including the New Year's Eve family celebration at Charles Clark Square with entertainment, fireworks and the traditional countdown – (519) 971-0950; www.brightnightswindsor.com

WOODSTOCK

To April Woodstock Museum National Historic Site

To Jan. 3, A 20th Century Christmas – celebrate Christmas throughout the past century, from Christmas on a budget during the Depression and the World Wars, to Christmas mania 1950-1990; Jan. 31-April 17, From Glaciers to Cartier – travelling exhibition from the Musée du Seminaire de Sherbrooke, life in Quebec in the thousands of years between the end of the ice age and the arrival of the first European explorers – 466 Dundas St., (519) 537-8411;

www.ocl.net/projects/woodstockmuseum/

NIAGARA FALLS AND REGION

FORT ERIE

To January 11 Fort Erie WinterFest Niagara Park's Mather Arch Park lights up the night – Niagara River Parkway, 1-877-NIA-PARK or (905) 371-0254; www.niagaraparks.com

NIAGARA FALLS

To January 20 Winter Festival of Lights 21st annual light festival – Canada's largest – with motion light displays, live Disney shows, fireworks extravaganzas, parades that light up the night, and special events, including New Year's Eve in the Park, a non-alcoholic family evening of entertainment in Queen Victoria Park – 1-800-563-2557 or (905) 374-1616; www.discoverniagara.com

December 6-7 Art by the Falls Christmas Art and Craft Show

Sixth annual juried show, featuring designers and craftspeople from across Ontario – Optimist Hall, Dorchester and Morrison St., (905) 227-7248.

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

December Twelve Days of Christmas
A month-long celebration of Christmas with
special events and holiday shopping –
(905) 468-1950; www.niagaraonthelake.com

December 5 Candlelight Stroll

A guided stroll through the historical town, accompanied by local choirs and Christmas entertainment; canned food donations requested – 6:30pm start from Court House steps, (905) 468-1950; www.niagaraonthelake.com

December 5-6 Rotary Holiday House Tour A Christmas tour of five professionally decorated homes – (905) 351-3807.

December 13 Santa Claus Parade 11am start – (905) 468-4261.

January 1 New Year's Day Levee

Welcome in the New Year at historic Navy Hall as the military did over 200 years ago, with traditional music, a toast to the Queen and the firing of cannon (2:30-4:30pm) – FREE – Navy Hall National Historic Site, just below Fort George, (905) 468-6621; www.friendsoffortgeorge.ca/events.html

PORT COLBORNE

December 6 Santa Claus Parade

An evening parade with lighted floats – FREE – (905) 835-2901, ext. 112; www.portcolborne.com

December 7-13 Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum

Dec. 7, Grand Old Christmas Festival, old-fashioned Christmas festivities with Santa in the heritage village; Dec. 7-13, Arabella's Pudding and Sauce Week, Christmas Edwardian style, with traditional pudding at the Tea Room − 280 King St., one block west of Welland Canal, (905) 834-7604. ■

December 13 – February 21 Roselawn Centre for the Living Arts

Jazz Series – *Dec. 13*, Reg Schwager and Kiki Misumi; *Jan. 17*, Jim Galloway; *Feb. 21*, Rob McConnell – (905) 834-7552; www.roselawn.ca

ST. CATHARINES

To January 25 Angelfest

Follow the Angel Trail along the Wine Route from Stoney Creek to Port Dalhousie for a series of exciting seasonal events – community lighting displays, parades, winery tastings, theatre, Christmas in Jordan village, unique shopping destinations – passports available, (905) 945-6651; www.niagarawest.com/angelfest

December 4 - February 29 Centre for the Arts Dec. 4, Brass Rings, with William O'Meara, music and song; Dec. 5, Natalie MacMaster; Dec. 10, Cantabile, a Christmas concert with the UK quartet; Dec. 13 (Calvary Church, 89 Scott St.), Chorus Niagara presents: Bach Christmas Oratorio; Dec. 13-14, Niagara Symphony holiday celebration; Dec. 16, Ron Sexsmith with Mad Violet; Jan. 15, Holly McNarland with Emm Gryner; Jan. 17 (Archie's Trough), The Heillig Manoeuvre, contemporary jazz; Jan. 18, The Flaming Idiots, variety; Jan. 24, Motus O: A Midsummer Night's Dream – two-hour extravaganza of Shakespeare's classic play, with text, dance, video and music; Jan. 25, Niagara Symphony; Jan. 28, The Musical Box: tribute band reprises the 1973 Genesis tour; Jan. 29, Dave Coulier, comedy; Jan. 30, Chamber Music; Feb. 8, Smythe and Saucier, comedy and acrobatics; Feb. 19, Kiran Ahluwalia, classical Indian folk songs; Feb. 21, Nearly Neil - Bobby Bruce's Neil Diamond tribute show; Feb. 28, Sampradaya Dance: Revealed by Fire; Feb. 28-29, Niagara Symphony: The Great Symphony Gumbo - Brock University, 500 Glenridge Ave., (905) 888-5550, ext. 3257; www.arts.brocku.ca

January 16-25 Niagara Icewine Celebrations Jan. 16 (Sheraton on the Falls Hotel, Niagara Falls), Xerox "Images of Winter" Icewine Gala Evening showcases wines from Ontario premier wineries and icewine tasting paired with outstanding cuisine; Jan. 17-25, 10 days of touring, tasting and special events at area wineries with the Icewine Touring Passport – (905) 688-0212; www.grapeandwine.com

WELLAND

December 6 Welland Santa Claus Parade
The parade starts at 12:30pm on Wellington St. at East Main, proceeds downtown to Cross
Street and ends on Merritt Island, where additional holiday celebrations take place – FREE – (905) 732-7300; www.city.welland.on.ca

December 31 New Year's Eve Celebration Community New Year's Eve in Chippawa Park; festivities commence with fireworks at 8pm and end at midnight with more; in between there are hay rides, sleigh rides, live music, Much Music V.J., tobogganing, skating, hot chocolate, cider and chili – (905) 735-8696; www.tourismwelland.com



For helpful information about accommodations, festivals, events, adventures and experiences in Ontario, please visit

www.ontariotravel.net or call 1-800-ONTARIO (668-2746).

CENTRAL ONTARIO

BALA

December 6 Trek to Bethlehem in Bala Follow the story of Christmas through the streets of Bala (5:30pm) - FREE -(705) 762-5904; www.muskokalakeschamber.com

BANCROFT

To December 20 Art Gallery of Bancroft Nov. 26-Dec. 20, Christmas at the Gallery, celebration of the Christmas spirit with gifts and crafts by local artists and artisans on display -Old Station, Station St., (613) 332-1542.

December 6 Santa Claus Parade A large parade through town - FREE -(613) 332-3957; www.bancroftdistrict.com

BARRIE

December 13 - February 20 Gryphon Theatre Dec. 13, Natalie MacMaster; Feb. 1, Dave Coulier; Feb. 4, Genesis, the Musical; Feb. 20, Nearly Neil - 1 Georgian Dr., (705) 728-4613; www.gryphontheatre.com

BRACEBRIDGE

December 7 Bracebridge Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade

(705) 645-8121; www.bracebridgechamber.com

CAMPBELLFORD

To January 4 Showcase of Lights

The Trent Severn Canal, Old Mill Park and downtown Campbellford come alive with thousands of lights in over 50 displays to brighten the holiday season - FREE - 1-888-653-1556 or (705) 653-1551; www.campbellfordchamber.on.ca

December 6-7 Westben presents Sound the **Trumpets**

The True North Brass teams up with the Westben Festival Chorus for a heart-warming Christmas celebration complete with hot apple cider, sleigh bells and singalong - Westben Arts Festival Theatre, The Barn, County Rd. 30, 1-877-883-5777 or (705) 653-5508; www.westben.on.ca

January 31 Campbellford Chocolate & Cheeze

COBOURG

To December 7 A Cobourg Christmas Carol At historic Mackechnie House Bed and Breakfast a processional play takes visitors on a journey through a Cobourg Christmas Carol -173 Tremaine St., (905) 372-6242.

To January 2 Christmas Magic

Victoria Park and the waterfront are transformed by a dazzling display of over 100,000 coloured lights - FREE - 1-888-262-6874 or (905) 372-5481; www.town.cobourg.on.ca

December 14 Russian Troika

A concert of Christmas favourites including Rapaport's Winter Solstice, Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker, and Rimsky-Korsakov's Christmas Eve Polonaise (3pm) - Trinity United Church, Division and Chapel St., (905) 342-9295; www.norchestra.ca

December 31 First Night Celebrations

An alcohol-free family New Year's Eve celebration, with fireworks and live entertainment (6pm on) - downtown, 1-888-262-6874 or (905) 372-5481; www.town.cobourg.on.ca

DORSET

February 20-21 Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival

Winter events for the whole family - in and around the Dorset Recreation Centre, (705) 766-9968; www.dorsetsnowball.com

HALIBURTON

January 10-11 Haliburton Highlands Dogsled Derby

See dog teams from across North America compete for the largest purse in Ontario; sprint races feature four-, six- and eight-dog open and purebred teams; celebrity race Saturday morning, Kid and Mutt race at noon – FREE – (705) 457-5281;

www.winterdance.com/haliburtonrace.htm

February 1-11 Sir Sam's Ski Area

Feb. 1, West 49 Slopeside Challenge – snow-boarders exercise their skills over a course of rails, boxes and spectacular jumps; Feb. 10, Global TV Ski Day, after a day of skiing, a chance to meet the celebrities; Feb. 11, Sir Sam's Ski Challenge, first race in a series of eight – Eagle Lake, (705) 754-2298; www.sirsams.com

HASTINGS

December 7 Santa Claus Parade

A small-town holiday tradition, full of music and Christmas spirit – FREE – Bridge St., 1-800-268-4561 or (705) 696-3226; www.hastingschamber.on.ca

KEENE

December 7 Heritage Christmas at Lang Pioneer Village

A traditional celebration featuring horse-andsleigh rides, pioneer crafts, holiday foods, music and a visit from Father Christmas – 104 Keene Rd., 1-866-289-5264 or (705) 295-6644; www.langpioneervillage.ca

December 14 Keene Santa Claus Parade Parade starts at 10am – downtown, 1-800-461-6424 or (705) 742-3376.

LINDSAY

November 29 – December 20 A Christmas Festival

Display and sale of arts, crafts and other festive items – Lindsay Gallery, (705) 324-1780.

December 2-14 Academy Theatre

Dec. 2, Memories of Don Messer Jubilee Christmas; Dec. 3, Rita MacNeil in Concert; Dec. 6, Encore presents Creason, family show; Dec. 13, Carroll Baker and Friends; Dec. 14, An Evening with John McDermott – 1-877-888-0038 or (705) 324-9111; www.academytheatre.ca

MIDLAND

December 6 Midland Santa Claus Parade 26th annual parade – FREE – (705) 526-4770; www.southerngeorgianbay.on.ca

December 9-11 First Light

Over 2,000 candles light Sainte-Marie for an enchanted Christmas evening tour – Sainte-Marie among the Hurons, Hwy. 12 E., (705) 526-7838;

www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca

MILLBROOK

December 13 Santa Claus Parade Downtown – (705) 932-7007.

ORILLIA

To January 5 Wonderland of Lights

Thousands of white lights adorn downtown Orillia stores, buildings and trees – FREE – (705) 325-3261; www.orillia.com

February 6-8 Orillia Winter Carnival

A great family celebration of winter with a huge ice castle, dog sled rides, children's fish pond, petting zoo, horse-and-wagon rides, pancake breakfast, charity polar bear dip and more – Centennial and Couchiching Beach Parks, Port of Orillia, (705) 326-0545; www.orilliawintercarnival.ca

PETERBOROUGH

December 6 Peterborough Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade

One of southern Ontario's largest evening parades, starting at 5:30pm from City Hall and heading south on George St. - downtown, 1-800-461-6424 or (705) 750-1010; www.peterboroughkinsmen.ca

To December 7 Christmas Tradition A Christmas sale of unique gifts - FREE - Art Gallery of Peterborough, 250 Crescent St., (705) 743-9179; www.agp.on.ca

January 1 Hogmanay at Hutchison House Traditional Scottish New Year celebration at the historic Hutchison House Museum (1-4pm) -270 Brock St., 1-800-461-6424 or (705) 743-9710; www.nexicom.net/~history

PORT CARLING

January 30 – February 1 Port Carling Lions Winter Carnival

Ice skating, pancake breakfast, fun activities for all ages - FREE - (705) 765-6866.

PORT HOPE

To December 6 A Capitol Christmas -Festival of Trees

Canada's only atmospheric theatre is a showcase for thousands of lights on over 50 decorated trees; trees available to be won by raffle -Capitol Theatre, Queen St., 1-800-434-5092 or (905) 885-1071; www.capitoltheatre.com

December 5 A Candlelight Walk

Carollers parade down Port Hope's heritage main street with candles, gathering in Memorial Park for a lighting ceremony, more carolling and free refreshments - FREE - Walton St., (905) 885-5519; www.porthope.ca

December 5 - January 2 A Candlelight Christmas

The trees in Memorial Park are decorated for the festive season with thousands of lights, all in a Victorian village setting - FREE -(905) 885-5519; www.porthope.ca

December 5-6 Kinette Christmas General Store

Annual sale of crafts, baked goods and Christmas tile - FREE - Knights of Columbus Hall, Elias St., (905) 885-9476.

November 21-23 Harvest of Delight and Gathering of the Greens

Seasonal sale of arts and crafts - call for details -Kathryn McHolm, 4749 County Rd. 2, Welcome, (905) 753-2196.

December 6 Annual Santa Claus Parade Floats and bands march down Port Hope's heritage main street to Memorial Park (1pm start) - FREE - Walton St., (905) 885-5519; www.porthope.ca

December 12-21 Snow White and the Seven Vertically Challenged People

A Christmas pantomime, filled with comedy, slapstick, music and mayhem to entertain the entire family - Capitol Theatre, Queen St., 1-800-434-5092 or (905) 885-1071; www.capitoltheatre.com

January 8 - March 28 The Upstairs Gallery Winter Fire, an exhibit of recent work by artist Janet Read - FREE - 38 Walton St., 2nd Floor, (905) 885-2115.

February 14-15 Ganaraska Railway Club Annual model railway show, with operating layouts, exhibits and vendors - Lions Recreation Centre, (905) 885-6788.

February 27 – March 7 The Rocky Horror Picture Show

Feb. 27-29 & March 4-7, A production of the sci-fi spoof show by Theatre Northumberland — Capitol Theatre, Queen St., 1-800-434-5092 or (905) 885-1071. ■

February 28 First Stages Theatre Company A play reading, featuring The Gin Game by D.L. Coburn – Capitol Theatre (2nd Floor), Queen St., 1-800-434-5092 or (905) 885-1071.

WARKWORTH

December 5 Santa Claus Parade A rural Christmas celebration – an evening parade down Main Street – FREE – 1-888-653-1556 or (705) 924-3014; www.warkworth.ca

WASAGA BEACH

January 24-25 Dog Sled Races

Family fun and entertainment as 130 or more Siberian Huskies return to Wasaga during Winterfest 2004, for races featuring some of Canada's fastest three-, four- and six-dog sprint teams – Blueberry Trails Nordic Centre, (705) 429-2247; www.wasagabeach.com



For helpful information about accommodations, festivals, events, adventures and experiences in Ontario, please visit

www.ontariotravel.net or call 1-800-ONTARIO (668-2746).

EASTERN ONTARIO

CORNWALL

To December 5 Cornwall Regional

Art Gallery

Exhibit of watercolours by artist Alain Bain – 164 Pitt St., (613) 938-7387.

FRANKFORD

To January 5 Christmas Fantasy of Lights A veritable explosion of lights along the banks of the Trent River – FREE – Frankford Tourist Park, (613) 398-6200.

GANANOQUE

December 7 Santa Boat

Santa arrives in Gananoque by boat, courtesy of the Gananoque Boat Line; entertainment, refreshments – FREE – Boat Line Dock, (613) 382-2248; www.1000islandsgananoque.com

KINGSTON

December 12 – February 27 Kingston Symphony Orchestra

Dec. 12 (St. Mary's Cathedral), Christmas Special – the orchestra celebrates the holiday season with the Kingston Choral Society and special guest Maria Knapik; Jan. 11 (Grant Hall, Queen's University), Masterworks Four the orchestra welcomes concertmaster Gisele Dalbec to centre stage in a performance of Vivaldi's The Four Seasons; also on the program is the world premiere of a work by Istvan Anhalt; Jan. 30 (8pm) & Feb. 1 (2:30pm), Carmen, an opera-in-concert performance of one of the world's most popular operas, with Julie Nesrallah in the title role, and Stuart Hamilton as host; Feb. 27, Friday Night Live 3 a performance of Holst's The Planets in its entirety, with special guest, astronomer Terence Dickinson; plus A Squall-A Symphonic Play, an original play within a concert - Grand Theatre,

218 Princess St., 1-800-451-2453 or (613) 530-2050; www.kingstonsymphony.on.ca

LYNDHURST

December 6 Lyndhurst Tree Lighting Annual lighting up ceremony of the official village tree (6:30pm) – FREE – Lyndhurst Village, (613) 928-2786.

MALLORYTOWN

To December 7 A Country Home Christmas (Nov. 29-30 & Dec. 6-7), Visit the many artisans and artists in their studios along the 1000 Island Parkway – FREE – 1000 Islands Parkway, 1-888-251-7676 or (613) 345-3077.

MORRISBURG

December 4 – January 4 Upper Canada Village – Alight at Night

Over 150,000 lights decorate the historic buildings, fences and trees; old-fashioned nighttime horse-drawn sleigh/wagon rides, unique giftideas at the Village Store, warm-you-up food and beverages on site – 13740 County Rd. 2, just east of Morrisburg, (613) 543-4328; www.uppercanadavillage.com

PAKENHAM

January 31 – February 29 Winter Wonderland Weekends at Fulton's

(Weekends), Celebrate the wonders of winter at Fulton's 400-acre farm and explore nature trails Sunday sleigh rides (11am-3pm), hearty meals available; dog sledding excursions (call for dates – reservations required) – FREE – Fulton's Pancake House and Sugar Bush, 291 Concession 6, 1-888-538-5866 or (613) 256-3867; www.fultons.on.ca

PERTH

To December 31 Heritage Quilts of Lanark County and Beyond

Over 30 quilts on display, covering 100 years of quilting (1850-1950) – Perth Museum, 11 Gore St. E., (613) 267-1947;

www.superaje.com/~perth.museum/

SMITHS FALLS

To December 19 23rd Annual Art Show and Sale

Display and sale of recent works by local artists – Heritage House, 11 Old Sly's Rd., 613) 283-8560;

www.town.smiths-falls.on.ca/tourism/hhm

To December 19 Christmas Comes to Heritage House

The museum is decorated to reflect numerous Victorian-era traditions from various countries – discover the origins of the Christmas tree or stir the plum pudding; hot cider available; *Dec. 7*, Victorian Christmas Tea, home-baked seasonal treats round the tree, carols, children's crafts and Santa – 11 Old Sly's Rd., (613) 283-8560; www.town.smiths-falls.on.ca/tourism/hhm

December 1-21 Christmas at the Rideau Canal Museum

(Weekends, 10am-4:30pm), Ongoing activities and Christmas gift shop sale – 34 Beckwith St., (613) 284-0505; www.rideau-info.com/museum/

TRENTON

To January 5 Christmas Fantasy of Lights A veritable explosion of lights throughout Fraser Park in downtown Trenton – FREE – (613) 392-2841.



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OTTAWA REGION

OTTAWA

September – April Ottawa Senators Fast-paced NHL action – Corel Centre, 1000 Palladium Dr., 1-800-444-SENS or (613) 599-0300; www.ottawasenators.com

September – June National Arts Centre Orchestra

Under the direction of Pinchas Zukerman, the orchestra presents over 36 different performances in the Signature, Ovation and Bravo series – National Arts Centre, 53 Elgin St., 1-866-850-2787 or (613) 947-7000; www.nac-cna.ca

To April 25 Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography

To Jan. 4, Marcus Schubert: Visionary
Environments; to Jan. 11, Melvin Charney – an
overview of the last ten years of the work of this
multi-disciplinary artist; Jan. 24-April 25,
Neil Tenhaaf: Fit/Unfit: A Survey Exhibition;
Jan. 24-April 25, Christine Davis – FREE –
1 Rideau Canal, (613) 990-8257;
www.cmcp.gallery.ca

To May 2 National Gallery of Canada To Jan. 4, A Beautiful and Gracious Manner: The Art of Parmigianino (1503-1540) – paintings, drawings and prints; to Jan. 4, The Group of Seven in Western Canada; to Feb. 8, Lucius O'Brien, Sunrise over the Saguenay; Feb. 6 – May 2, David Rabinowitch – 380 Sussex Dr., 1-800-319-2787 or (613) 990-1985;

www.national.gallery.ca

To February 22 Great Canadian Theatre Company

To Dec. 7, Marion Bridge, three women come 'home' to Cape Breton to be with their dying mother; Jan. 20-Feb. 8, Ibsen's The Doll House, in a new translation by John Murrell; Feb. 10-22, Me, dad and a hundred boyfriends – comedy star Cathy Jones returns to the stage –

910 Gladstone Ave. (corner of Preston), (613) 236-5196; www.gctc.ca

To February 28 Ottawa Little Theatre
To Dec. 13, Gigi – non-musical version of the hit show set in Paris in 1900; Jan. 5-24, An Evening of One-Act Plays – Gallery, comedy by Stewart Boston, and Talking Carrots at the End of Act One, comedy by Mat Kelly; Feb. 9-28, Hide and Seek, a mystery/thriller by Lesley Havard – 400 King Edward Ave., (613) 233-8948; www.o-l-t.com

To March 13 National Arts Centre - Theatre English-language theatre: To Dec. 6, Tiger of Malaya, by Hiro Kanagawa, an exploration of race, war and the subjectivity of justice, based on the Manila War Crimes Trial of General Tomoyuki Yamashita; Jan. 8-24, Hamlet, Shakespeare's brilliant revenge tragedy, produced on the full thrust stage, and directed by Marti Maraden; Feb. 26-March 13, Written on Water, by Michel Marc Bouchard, a reflection on memory and on the act of writing; Frenchlanguage theatre: Dec. 4-13, L'homme de la Mancha, French adaptation of the Man of La Mancha musical by Jacques Brel -53 Elgin St., 1-866-850-2787 or (613) 947-7000; www.nac-cna.ca

To September Canadian Museum of Civilization To Feb. 15, Holman: 40 Years of Graphic Art art of the Inuit community at Holman in the Western Arctic; to Sept. 6, Presenza - the first major national exhibition on the heritage and day-to-day lives of Italian Canadians, and the Italian traditions, values and skills that contribute to our culture; to Ian. 2005, Across Time and Tundra: The Inuvialuit of the Canadian Arctic - the history of a unique people who consider themselves distinct from other Inuit; Dec. 5-April 12, Ancient Treasures and the Dead Sea Scrolls, an exhibition featuring some objects never before displayed in North America - 100 Laurier St., Hull, 1-800-555-5621 or (819) 776-7000; www.civilization.ca

December 3 – January 31 National Arts Centre – Dance Season

Dec. 3-7, The Nutcracker – the Christmas classic is performed by the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, accompanied by the National Arts Centre Orchestra; Jan. 22-24, The Magic Flute – The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, accompanied by the NAC Orchestra; Jan. 29-31, Evelyn Hart: First Lady of Dance – Canada's most treasured and admired ballerina is the inspiration for a magical evening of ballet and dance music, with performances by the superstar and friends – 53 Elgin St., 1-866-850-2787 or (613) 947-7000; www.nac-cna.ca

December 4 – January 11 Christmas Lights Across Canada

Over 70 sites and more than 270,000 dazzling lights along Confederation Boulevard; *Dec. 4*, Illumination ceremony, live entertainment – 1-800-465-1867; www.capcan.ca

December 11-21 Originals Ottawa Christmas Craft Sale

Lansdowne Park, 1-888-773-4444 or (613) 241-5777; www.signatures.ca

December 11 – February 28 National Arts Centre – Special Shows

Dec. 11-13, Charlie Chaplin's The Gold Rush, the immortal silent film classic of poignant love, comedy and adventure in the Yukon, with live music performed by the NAC Orchestra; Dec. 16-17, Handel's Messiah - Thierry Fischer conducts, with soprano Nathalie Paulin, countertenor Matthew White, tenor Rufus Mueller, bass-baritone Daniel Lichti, plus the Cantata Singers of Ottawa and Opera Lyra Ottawa Chorus; Dec. 20, Christmas with the NAC Orchestra - celebrate the festive season with the NAC Orchestra and choral ensemble in an evening of Yuletide favourites for all ages; Feb. 26-28, John Pizzarelli Meets the Beatles jazzman John Pizzarelli assumes the role of interpreter of the Beatles' extraordinary musical outpourings for the current generation -

53 Elgin St., 1-866-850-2787 or (613) 947-7000; www.nac-cna.ca

December 13-21 ByWard Market Christmas Carolling

(Weekends, 1-4pm), Free 15-minute horse-drawn carriage rides around the ByWard Market, and a chance to join in singing Christmas carols – FREE – (613) 562-3325; www.byward-market.com

January 30 Winterlude Stew Cook-Off

Over 20 ByWard Market restaurants compete to produce the best stew, and the public can sample the results – all-you-can-eat stew for \$10, proceeds to charity – outside, corner of York & George Sts., (613) 562-3325; www.byward-market.com

February 2 Volleyball on Snow Tournament Local teams compete for bragging rights while playing volleyball on snow-covered courts — ByWard Market, (613) 562-3325; www.byward-market.com

February 6-22 Winterlude 2004 Feb. 6-8, 13-15 & 20-22, One of North America's greatest winter festivals – the focus is the Rideau Canal with many special events; bed races, snow sculptures, figure skating shows and much more – 1-800-465-1867; www.capcan.ca

February 26-29 Ottawa Boat, Sportsmen's and Cottage Show

Lansdowne Park, 1-888-695-2677; www.sportsmensshows.com

NORTHERN ONTARIO

COBALT

January 24, 2004 April Verch

The fiddling of April Verch is a breath of fresh air. April has deep roots in the fiddling of her native Ottawa Vallee, but her music also features traditional and contemporary tunes – 30 Silver Street, (705) 679-8080; www.classictheatre.net

February 20-22 Town of Cobalt Winter Carnival

Come enjoy Cobalt's Winter Carnival! - P.O. Box 70, (705) 679-8877; www.nt.net/cobalt

February 28 The Second City

Back again to keep Timiskaming rolling in the aisles, The Second City is always a great time! This troupe is well established in the Canadian comedy scene and promises unpredictable comedy flair - 30 Silver Street, (705) 679-8080; www.classictheatre.net

ELLIOT LAKE

January 17 Deer Trail Curling Club Ladies **Bonspiel**

Ladies Bonspiel - Deer Trail Curling Club, 55 Hillside Dr. S., (705) 848-7121.

January 25 Entertainment Series: Penderecki String Quartet

Classical concert - Lester B. Pearson Civic Centre, Hwy. 108, (705) 848-3570.

January 31 Business Bonspiel

Curling Bonspiel - Deer Trail Curling Club, 55 Hillside Dr. S., (705) 848-7301.

February 7 Sounds of Silence

A Simon and Garfunkel tribute, sponsored by Trevor Burt - Lester B. Pearson Civic Centre, Hwy. 108, (705) 848-0205.

February 14 Deer Trail Curling Club Valentines Mixed Bonspiel

Mixed Curling Bonspiel - Deer Trail Curling Club, 55 Hillside Dr. S., (705) 848-7301.

February 14-15 Bell 'Idida Race' Sled Dog Races

Enjoy a fun-filled time at the second annual sled dog races - Spine Beach Cross-Country Ski Trail, 1-800-461-4663 or (705) 461-9251.

February 14-15 White Mountain Academy Pow Wow

Winter Pow Wow, with dancers, art exhibitions, crafts and more - W.H. Collins Centre, 120 Hillside Dr. N., 1-800-368-8655 or (705) 848-4347

February 23-27 Rotary Music Festival Lester B. Pearson Civic Centre, Hwy. 108, (705) 848-2019.

KAPUSKASING

November 22 - January 1 Festival of Lights Over 100,000 shinning lights with a festival touch that transforms the entire town into a Winter Wonderland, Riverside Park -88 Riverside Dr. 1-800-463-6432. (705) 337-4255; www.kapuskasing.ca

February 25 – March 7 Kapuskasing Annual Winter Carnival

Two weekends of true Northern Winter experiences - 88 Riverside Dr., 1-800-463-6432; (705) 337-4255 www.kapuskasing.ca

NORTH BAY

December - February Capitol Centre

Dec. 9, Michelle Wright, country music; Dec. 18, Cantabile, a cappella quartet from the UK; Jan. 15, April Verch, two-time Canadian fiddle champion; Jan. 31, Dave Coulier, comedy; Feb. 5, Genesis Tribute; Feb. 18, Nearly Neil -Bobby Bruce's Neil Diamond tribute show; Feb. 19, Titanic - The Musical: Feb. 28,

Jim Witter: The Piano Men, singer-songwriter -150 Main St. E., 1-888-834-4747 or (705) 474-4747; www.capitolcentre.ca

RED ROCK

December 4 Annual Santa Skate Meet Santa on ice - Red Rock Recreation Centre, (807) 886-2284.

February 18-22 Red Rock Winter Carnival A celebration of winter with a host of special events - Red Rock Recreation Centre, (807) 886-2284.

SAULT STE. MARIE

December 13-14 The Nutcracker A performance of Tchaikovsky's Christmas classic by Ballet Jorgen and the Sault Symphony Orchestra - (705) 954-8865; www.saultsymphony.com

January 30 – February 8 Ontario Winter Carnival Bon Soo

Selected as one of the top 50 festivals in Ontario, Bon Soo hosts over 125 events and activities including fireworks, concerts, the Bon Soo Fantasy Kingdom winter playground, sculpted entirely of snow, the Polar Bear swim and more - Roberta Bondar Park, Foster Drive, (705) 759-3000; www.bonsoo.on.ca

February 7 Irving Berlin Always

The Sault Symphony, with soloists Victor Young and Jayne Lewis, presents a tribute to Irving Berlin - Kiwanis Community Theatre Centre, (705) 945-8865.

SIOUX LOOKOUT

January 23-25 Sioux Mountain

Winter Festival

Dozens of fun events for the whole family, ranging from the traditional to the zany, help celebrate winter in Sioux Lookout -1-888-800-2378 or (807) 737-3227; www.siouxlookout.com/bluefest

ST. JOSEPH ISLAND

December 13 Royal Canadian Legion Children's Christmas Party

Food, Drinks and Gifts for the Children -Come celebrate Christmas with us! - James Harten MM Community Centre, Richards Landing, (705) 246-2494; www.stjosephisland.net

SUDBURY

To January 7 Sudbury's Festival of Lights An attractive display of Christmas lights and outdoor decorations - FREE - Science North, (705) 522-3700; www.sciencenorth.ca

November 27 - December 14 Jack and the Beanstalk

Christmas pantomime show with fun for the whole family - Sudbury Theatre Centre, 170 Shaughnessy St., (705) 674-8381; www.sudburytheatre.on.ca

December 31 New Year's Eve Family Celebration

Family New Year's Eve Celebration - Science North, (705) 522-3700; www.sciencenorth.ca

January 29 – February 15 Wingfield on Ice The latest offering in the popular Wingfield Farm series, starring Rod Beattie - Sudbury Theatre Centre, 170 Shaughnessy St., (705) 674-8381; www.sudburytheatre.on.ca

THUNDER BAY

November 25 - December 23 Gammondale

Farm Christmas Story

Unique celebration of the historic meaning of Christmas, featuring live animals; don a costume provided by Gammondale and join in the singing, enjoy a horse-drawn sleigh ride; then warm up with hot cocoa in the heritage cabin. Call for dates and times -McCluskey Drive, (807) 475-5615; www.gammondalefarm.com 🚨

To March 13 Magnus Theatre

To Dec. 13, Pinocchio, adapted by Thunder Bay playwright Eleanor Albanese - a timeless tale filled with great plot twists and moments of wonder; Jan. 29-Feb. 14, Proof - Pulitzer Prize winning play dealing with a family history of both madness and genius, estrangement and reunion; Feb. 26-March 13, Collected Stories in this provocative comedy-drama, respected short-story writer Ruth Steiner becomes the mentor to budding fiction writer Lisa Morrison. Conflict ensues as the protégé threatens to become a rival - 10 S. Algoma St., (807) 345-8033; www.magnus.on.ca

December – February Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra

A wide variety of musical offerings in the Masterworks, Parade of Pops, Classical Plus and Cabaret series of concerts - Thunder Bay Community Auditorium, 450 Beverly St., off Memorial Ave., 1-800-463-8817; www.tbso.ca

December 3-31 Fort William Historical Park Dec. 3 (6:30-8pm), Children's Christmas Party games, crafts, entertainment and fun, with a special visit from St. Nick; Dec. 8-10, Carolling by Candlelight - visit the homes of the fur

trade inhabitants of Fort William Historical Park, enjoy tasty treats, sing carols by the fireside and enjoy a performance by a local choir; Dec. 31 (6:30-10pm), New Year's Eve Family Frolic, a family celebration of New Year's with skating, games, crafts, entertainment, good food, fun and fireworks - Broadway Ave., (807) 577-8461; www.oldfortwilliam.on.ca

December 6 Lappe Distance Challenge An annual event for all cross-country ski enthusiasts - Lappe Ski Centre, 14th Concession Rd. Kaministiquia, (807) 767-2423.

January 31 - February 1 LSSD Ontario Cup Cross-country ski races – Lappe Ski Centre, 14th Concession Rd., Kaministiquia, (807) 767-1860; http://lssdxc.baynet.net/paged/paged.html



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Image: Mummy Mask of Satdjehuty, provenance unknown. Early18th Dynasty (ca. 1500 BC) Cartonnage, painted and gilded. EA 29770, acquired in 1880, purchased at Morten & Sons from the sale of the collection of Samuel Hull. ©Trustees of The British Museum.

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